

# Life-Cycle Management for PIV Credentials: USAccess

A Managed Service Offering for Governmentwide Credentialing  
that Provides the Path for Logical and Physical Access Convergence



## Introduction to USAccess

Facilities, computers or information systems, is a fundamental responsibility of government employees. To ensure consistent implementation across the federal government, Homeland Security Presidential Directive 12 (HSPD-12) was enacted. It provides for a new standardized federal identity credential which is designed to enhance security, reduce identity fraud, and protect the personal privacy of those issued government identification.

GSA has developed a complete end-to-end service to issue fully compliant identity credentials for government employees and contractors. By participating in the USAccess program, your agency benefits from an operational and robust infrastructure, centralized program and billing management, technical expertise, and economies of scale for credential management. Furthermore, USAccess provides a key foundational component to help your agency unite its logical and physical access control system implementation strategies.

## A Comprehensive Set of Services

**System Infrastructure:** Provides a secure, standards-based enterprise identity management capability with various PIV related components implemented with high availability and disaster recovery capabilities.

## Credential Production, Issuance, Activation and Management:

- Automatically batches and processes PIV credential requests, produces the credential in a central facility and ships to designated agency locations.
- Once the applicant receives the credential, his/her identity is confirmed using biometric verification followed by credential "personalization" with the applicant's biographic information, fingerprint templates, and PIN and generates the suite of digital certificates.
- Credential management activities, such as suspensions, reprints or revocations, may be performed by authorized role holders via an intuitive user interface.

**Role Holder Administration and Management:** Within the USAccess system, a Role Administrator assigns designated personnel separate and distinct privileges to Sponsor, Enroll, Adjudicate and Activate PIV Credentials. Individuals will receive special training developed to specifically address the key functions of the role.

**Reporting:** Generate various system reports to track the progress on credentialing applicants or shipments of credentials. Additionally, agencies receive detailed monthly invoice reports.

**Public Key Infrastructure (PKI):** Credential provided with four digital certificates (credential authentication, identity, e-mail signing, and e-mail encryption).



## USAccess Works for You

Agencies can trust that credentials issued under GSA's USAccess program to be secure, reliable, and comply with government-established HSPD-12 standards. The USAccess program also simplifies the process of registering, credentialing, and maintaining the lifecycle of these credentials for each participating agency.

**Centralized Program Management:** Alleviates individual agencies from having to deal with the complexities of acquiring, building and managing their own system. The MSO manages tasks such as certification and accreditation (C&A), privacy assessments, and configuration management.

**Built-in HSPD-12 Policy Compliance:** Gain immediate access to an end-to-end solution that enables agencies to quickly begin issuing PIV-compliant credentials.

**Reduced Capital Expenditures:** Using a shared services model, the USAccess program has adopted a simplified, per-credential fee system that eliminates the large upfront costs and provides for more time to focus on applications for using the credential.

**Enhanced Security:** Each credential is registered and verified according to the requirements outlined by NIST and GSA. The USAccess system protects against fraudulent credentials being used to gain access to buildings, controlled areas and government systems.

**Ease of Use and Deployment:** Integrated and tested system from end-to-end that offers an easy-to-navigate portal where participating agencies can view the status of enrollments and activations, and manage progress.

## About the GSA HSPD-12 Managed Service Office

The GSA HSPD-12 Managed Service Office (MSO) provides federal agencies with interoperable identity management and credentialing solutions that provide end-to-end services to enroll applicants, issue credentials, and manage the lifecycle of these credentials. The MSO established the USAccess program to offer federal agencies a shared service solution that simplifies the process of procuring and maintaining PIV compliant credentials reducing overall cost to the government and bringing internal efficiencies. The MSO provides the project, acquisition and financial management necessary to help participating agencies receive the USAccess end-to-end service.

## For More Information

To learn more about the USAccess program, please visit the Web site at [www.fedidcard.gov](http://www.fedidcard.gov). You may contact us at [hspd12@gsa.gov](mailto:hspd12@gsa.gov) or 703.605.3490.